

Where Can I Purchase a New Jersey Hunting License in Atlantic County?

NJ Hunting License Agents?

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, which deals with hunting in the state, presently lists ten locations on the webpage <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/agentlst.htm> with the understanding that they do so “for informational purposes only” and further suggest, “It is best to contact the agent beforehand to ensure the license(s), stamp(s), and / or permit you want are available and their system is active.”

All listed locations sell both hunting and fishing licenses, and all are on the Integrated Electronic Licensing System, which can be accessed online. For information on the Integrated Electronic Licensing System, visit <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/licenses.htm>. Two of the listed agents, the Fish Finder Marina and Zeus Products Company, also sell shellfish licenses.

Hunting License Agent Locations

- **Dick's Sporting Goods, Mays Landing, 609/407 1711**
- **Egg Harbor True Value Harbor, Egg Harbor City, 609/965 0815**
- **Fish Finder Marina, Brigantine, 609/457 5384**
- **Galloway Ace Hardware, Absecon, 609/748 7400**
- **Main Street Hardware, Mays Landing, 609/625 4941**
- **Penza Hardware, Hammonton, 609/561 1027**
- **The Sports Authority, Mays Landing, 609/484 0916**
- **Wal-Mart, Hammonton, 609/567 2700**
- **Wal-Mart, Mays Landing, 609/625 8200**
- **Zeus Products Company, Egg Harbor Township, 609/646 1668**

Hunting Ducks?

At its webpage http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/waterfowl_info.htm the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife says that to hunt ducks, geese, or brant in New Jersey you need a New Jersey hunting license, Harvest Information Program certification, and (if you are 16 or older) a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, and a New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp. The stamps must be signed in ink across their face. Check either the above-cited webpage or <http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/hipprog.htm> for how to obtain Harvest Information Program certification.

Fines and Penalties for Illegal Duck Hunting?

Fines (and other penalties, such as suspension of hunting privileges) vary so widely according to the precise violation and other factors that cases must be handled individually. In Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties, it is best to refer questions about specific incidents to New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Southern Regional Office Law Enforcement, 220 Blue Anchor Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081. Contact telephone number 856/629 0555.



New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife
Southern Regional Office Law Enforcement
220 Blue Anchor Road
Sicklerville, NJ 08081.

Phone: 856/629 0555



On Target for Continued Success

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New Jersey hunter education has a rich history dating back to 1955 when New Jersey became only the second state in the country to pass legislation requiring mandatory hunter education. Since its inception, when local volunteers would invite students into their homes for a course on firearm safety, the program has changed dramatically. It has evolved from small, informal classes, to more formalized instructor teaching teams, to centralized teaching locations with instructors following standardized course curriculums.

The most important change came in 2002 when the program format was totally revised. The traditional format, consisting of two evening classroom sessions and one weekend day field experience, was replaced with a modified home-study-based course developed around an educational packet consisting of a DVD/video tape, student manual, and student workbook. This new format has changed the program's downward trend in recruitment and has been embraced by its volunteer hunter education instructors.

Of the many reasons for changing the program format, one stood out above others. Since the mid-1980s a steady decline in student attendance in hunter education has occurred. Nearly 10,000 course completion cards were issued in 1995 but only 5,297 in 2001. Through meetings with volunteer hunter education instructors, feedback from our customers, and observations at the classes it became evident that both the application process (a mail-in registration form) and student scheduling (with three mandatory sessions) had become a major roadblock. In the fall of 2001, program personnel began work to develop a modified home study course format to address these issues.

The new format took the existing two week-night classes required for each type of course (archery, shotgun, and rifle/muzzleloader) and incorporated everything into a single hour- and-45-minute DVD/video. Since not all of our students are visual learners, a comprehensive student manual accompanied the video. A student workbook was added to this teaching packet to test the student's knowledge of the course material. The new course format and material allowed students to work at home at their own pace, eliminating the need for two weeknight classroom sessions.

Our volunteer instructors now lead a one-day field session including a field walk, live fire exercise, and written exam to cover the archery, shotgun, and rifle/muzzleloader courses. Students attend the field session and are grouped with hunter education instructors to lead them through a number of "teaching stations" where topics such as treestand safety, blood trailing, zones of fire, wildlife identification, don't shoot situations, and responsible firearm and bow handling are taught. After completion of this field walk, students are sent to the appropriate ranges for the classes they are taking. All three disciplines (archery, shotgun, and rifle/muzzleloader) require a live-fire shooting segment. The day ends with a written exam that all students must pass with a minimum score of 80 percent.

The access and scheduling roadblock was removed by posting hunter education class dates online and allowing students to register for a class that best fits their schedules. Teaching facilities are located throughout the state and are placed so that commuting time is limited to no more than a one-hour drive.

This format change has resulted in a number of successes. First, the percentage of registered students who actually attended a class rose from 50 percent (in the traditional program) to well over 80 percent with the new format. Also, hunter education instructors continue to comment on how well their students are prepared when they arrive at the field session. They believe that this elevated level of knowledge allows them to conduct a more advanced course. Customer feedback has been extremely positive. The new format has also provided us with an unanticipated outcome: the video has become an excellent retraining and recruitment tool. With a great deal of the work now completed at home, many people in addition to students watch the video. Student recruitment continues to increase since the 2002 transition to this new format. We are confident this change will ensure that the tradition of hunting in New Jersey continues.

